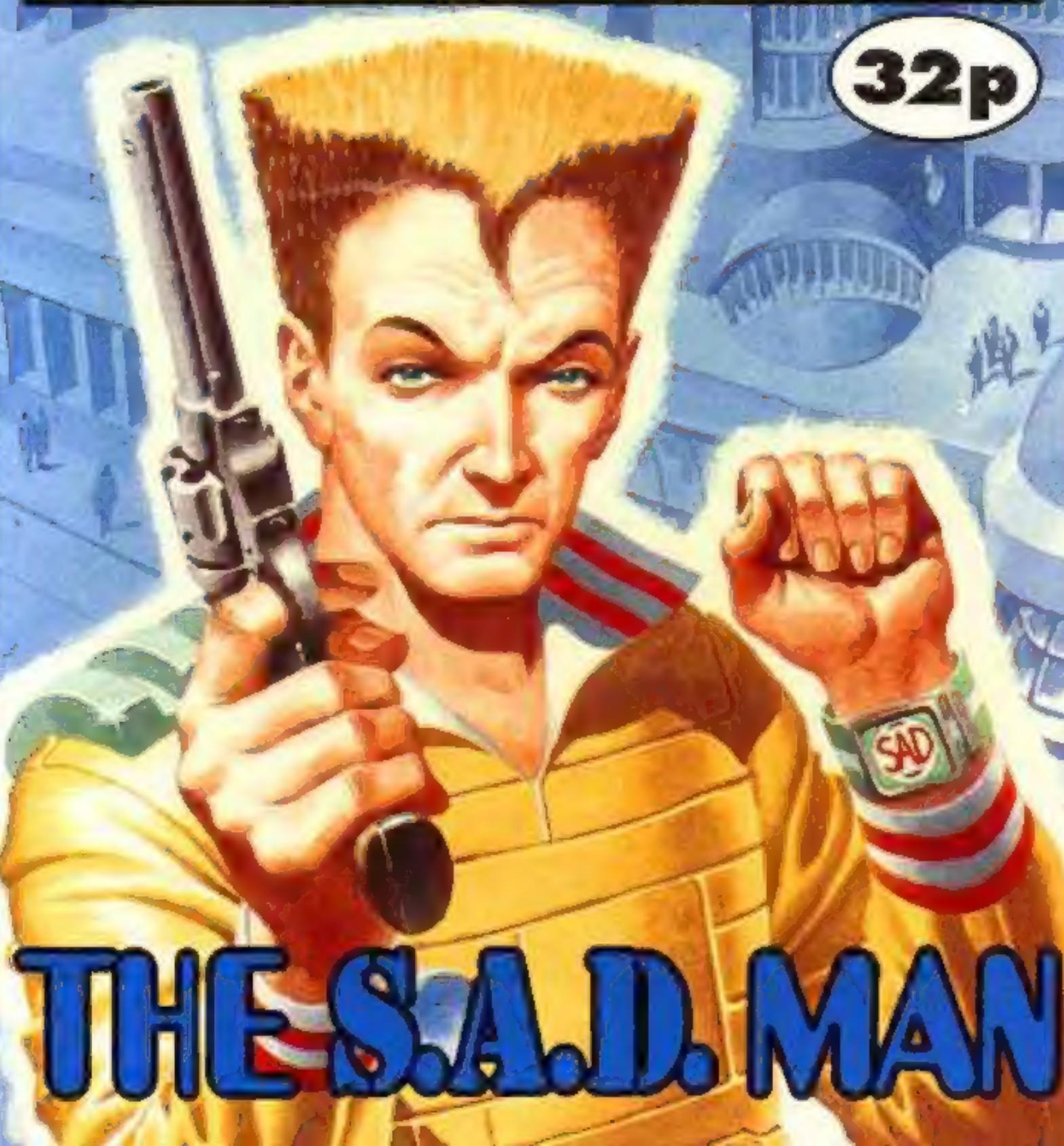


# STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 255

32p



# THE S.A.D. MAN

We at "Starblazer" want to bring you the very best in Fantasy Fiction. To do that we need your help.

So that we can produce the kind of stories you want to read, please fill in the questionnaire on this page and send it to "Starblazer", D. C. Thomson & Co. Ltd., 185 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HS.

If you don't want to cut your issue of "Starblazer", you can copy the questionnaire onto a sheet of paper.

And there's a chance to win a full-colour print of one of our new-style wraparound covers!

The senders of the ten letters which we judge to be the most informative will each receive one of the prints. We want to hear from you NOW!

**Name** ..... **Age** .....

**Address** .....

What kind of science fiction do you most enjoy?

**SUPERHEROES**   **FANTASY**  
**DUNGEONS** **SWORD AND**  
**AND DRAGONS**   **SORCERY**  
**POST**  **HORROR**  
**HOLOCAUST**   **STAR WARS**  
**ADVENTURE**   **DR. WHO**  
**HUMOUR**   **MYSTERY**

Where do you normally buy your STARBLAZER? \_\_\_\_\_

Which is your favourite STARBLAZER story? \_\_\_\_\_

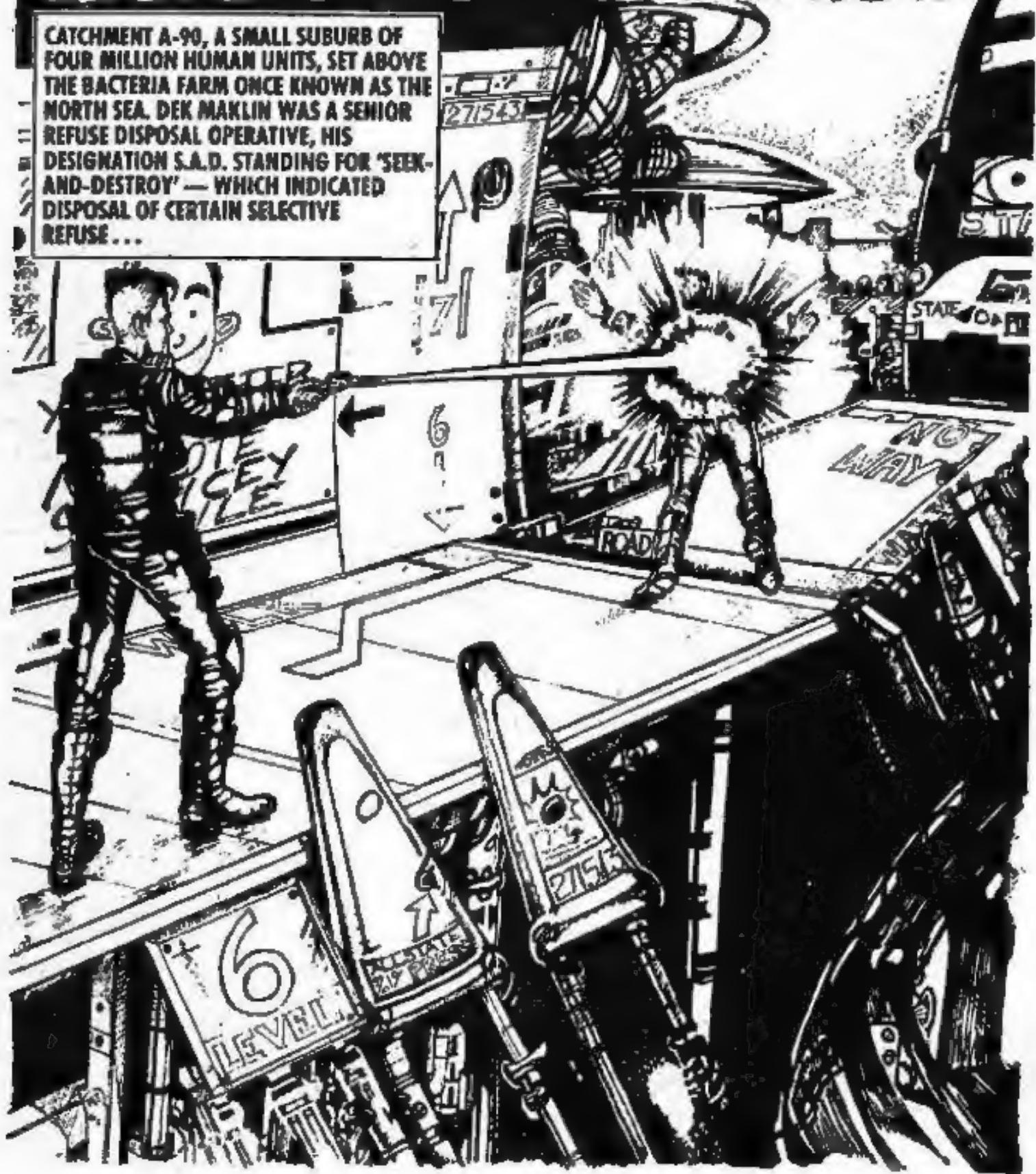
Which is your favourite character? \_\_\_\_\_

Which is your favourite science fiction movie? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you any comments to make about STARBLAZER... good or bad? \_\_\_\_\_

# THE S.A.D. MAN

CATCHMENT A-90, A SMALL SUBURB OF FOUR MILLION HUMAN UNITS, SET ABOVE THE BACTERIA FARM ONCE KNOWN AS THE NORTH SEA. DEK MAKLIN WAS A SENIOR REFUSE DISPOSAL OPERATIVE, HIS DESIGNATION S.A.D. STANDING FOR 'SEEK-AND-DESTROY' — WHICH INDICATED DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN SELECTIVE REFUSE ...



CLEANSING UNIT REQUIRED  
AT LOCATION 271543, SIXTH  
LEVEL

HEY, YOUR  
WHAT'S GOING ON?

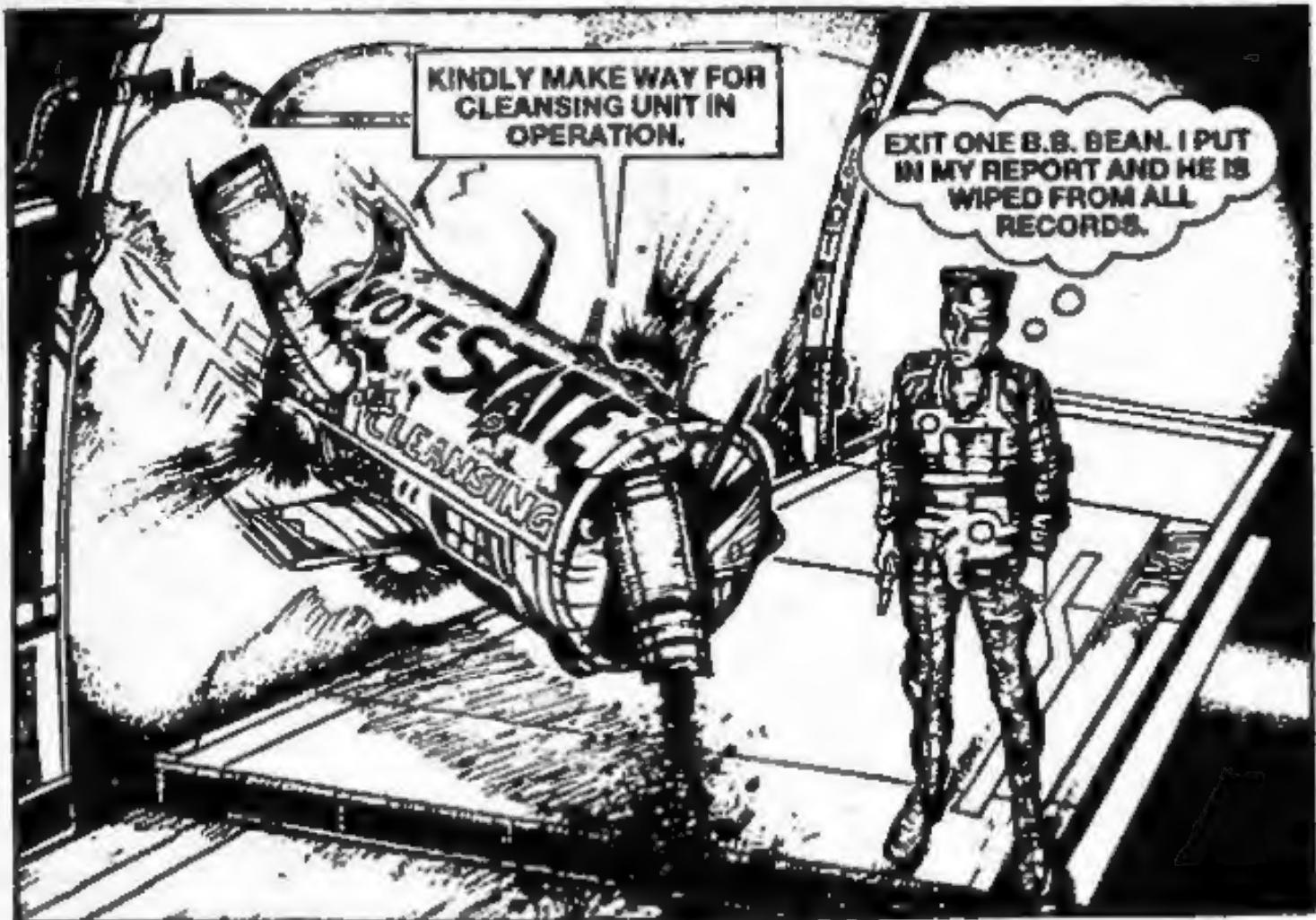
NO PUBLIC

YOUR BE  
FUTURE  
VOTE  
NICEY  
SMILE

DEX MAXLIN PRODUCED A BADGE...  
AND GOT A FRIGHTENED REACTION.

THIS IS NOT YOUR  
BUSINESS, CITIZENS.

A.S.A.D. MAN... THAT'S  
DIFFERENT. EXCUSE US.



WHO WAS HE ANYWAY? WHY DO I  
BOther MYSELF WITH  
UNIMPORTANT DETAIL. HE WAS  
DOWN FOR DISPOSAL AND THAT  
MAKES HIM AN ANTI-SOCIAL  
ELEMENT SO EXTREME HE HAD  
REJECTED PSYCHOLOGICAL  
CONDITIONING.

HOLI THAT IS  
MY VEHICLE.

THEN LET US IN,  
BROTHER. JUST A  
SHORT BORROW  
AND MAYBE YOU'LL  
GET IT BACK ALL IN  
ONE PIECE.

DON'T  
THINK





MAKLIN ARRIVED HOME TO AN APARTMENT  
LIKE ONE OF A THOUSAND OTHERS IN THE  
SAME TOWER...

B.B. BEAN CLEANSING  
EFFECTED. IDENTITY  
WIPEOUT IN ORDER. THAT  
IS ALL — OH, NO . . . I  
DESIRE CONSULTATION  
WITH THE DEPARTMENTAL  
PSYCHIATRIST!



THE SCREEN BLURRED — AN IMAGE FORMED . . .

I MAY BE DEVELOPING A PERSONALITY  
DISORDER INDUCED BY TASK  
DISSATISFACTION. MY WORK NO LONGER  
BRINGS A SENSE OF FULFILMENT. I FIND  
MYSELF QUESTIONING ITS PURPOSE AND  
EVEN THINKING OF THE — ER, THE ITEMS  
OF WHICH I DISPOSE.

WHAT YOU NEED IS A  
NICE BREAK WITH FRIENDS!





THE SCREEN BLANKED ...



FOUR TRANQUILLISERS!  
KINDLY SWALLOW WITH  
THE PLEASANT LIQUID  
PROVIDED.

MORE THANKS! I'M SICK OF  
TAKING THEM.

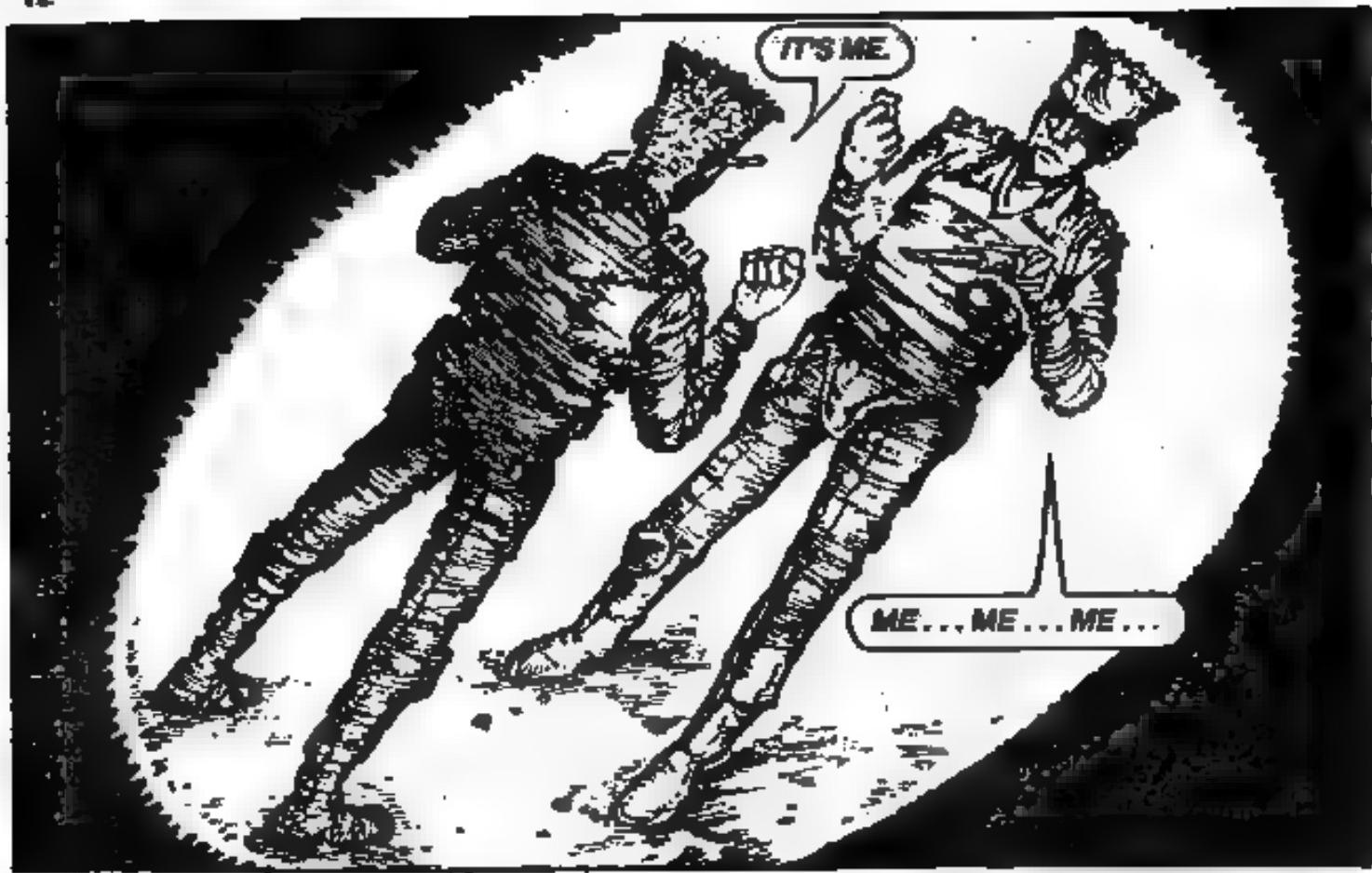
MAKLIN MANAGED SLEEP —  
THEN THE DREAM CAME . . .

SCRE  
SCREEN

MAYBE I DON'T SLEEP  
AS WELL WITHOUT  
THEM, BUT AT LEAST I  
WAKE UP FEELING  
BETTER.

SIR, I HAVE BUSINESS WITH  
YOU. HERE IS MY  
AUTHORITY.

BUT I HAVE BUSINESS WITH  
YOU — AND MY OWN  
AUTHORITY.



AWAKENING CAME AT THE SOUND OF THE DOOR BELL—

WHAT'S THAT SHRINK BEEN UP TO?

YOU HAVE TWO VISITORS ADMITTED ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF MR BALDOCK.



A SLEEK HOVERCAR WAITED IN THE COMPOUNDO...

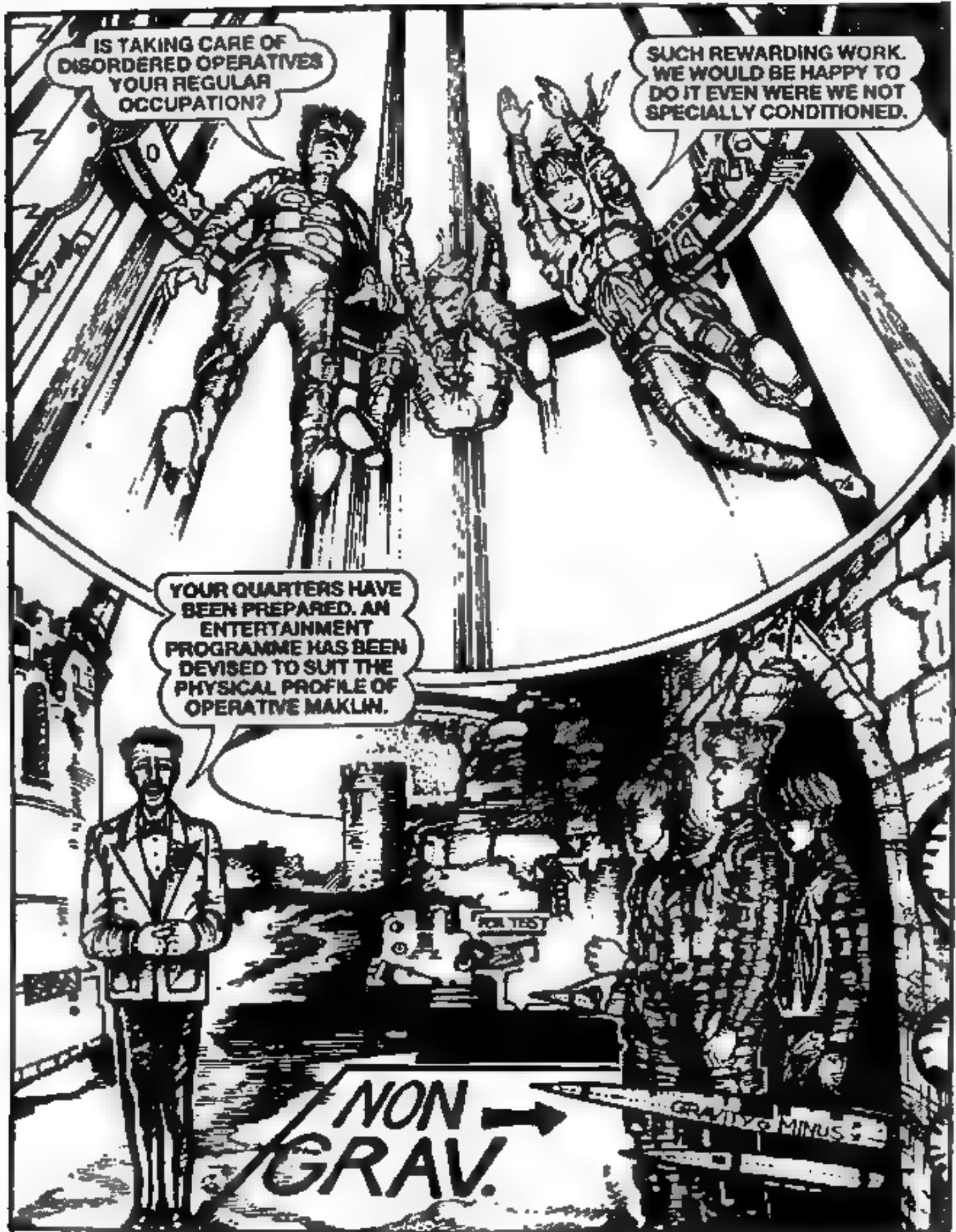
ALPHA HIGHWAY TO  
THE TOP LEVEL,  
MAKLIN.

FUNLAND, MAKLIN. REAL  
TREES, FLOWERS, GRASS—  
JUST LIKE HOW IT WAS  
OUTSIDE IN THE BAD OLD  
DAYS.

ENTER THE ANTI-GRAV  
ELEVATOR. ATTENDANTS  
WILL TAKE CARE OF YOUR  
VEHICLE.

ONCE  
ONLY  
VEHICLES

DO NOT  
INTERFERE...



MAKLIN VACATIONED — UNWILLINGLY . . .

YEAH . . . SURE!

HIT THE BEAT, MAKLIN. LET  
YOURSELF GO.

DANCE  
TODAY

. . . AND PREPARED FOR AN UNARMED COMBAT SESSION  
— UNWILLINGLY.

I MAY BE TOO STRONG  
FOR A FEMALE PERSON.

YOU MAY WELL  
BE, MAKLIN.

BUT I DON'T  
THINK SO!



ANDROID — PART BIOLOGICAL,  
PART BIONIC. IT IS THE ONLY  
EXPLANATION FOR SUCH  
UNNATURAL STRENGTH.



THE VACATION CONTINUED

SUCH A QUAIN MODE OF  
TRANSPORT. I HEARD THAT  
THESE QUADRUPEDS  
ACTUALLY EXISTED IN  
BIOLOGICAL FORM AT ONE  
TIME IN THE PAST.

LOOK AT THAT SUN IN  
THAT SKY. ONE MIGHT  
ALMOST THINK IT IS  
REAL.

WATER — A SMALL SEA!  
LAKES ■ WHAT THEY  
WERE CALLED.

BUT NOT FOR US. HERE WE  
TURN BACK BEFORE BEING  
ORDERED BY THE GUARD  
MONITORS.

SUN SAND STATE 25



DAKIN ENTERED HIS APARTMENT—

WORK AWAITS YOU ONE  
DISPOSAL HAS PRIORITY.

STOP SCREEN  
IF OUT STATE ON  
CLOSE DOWN  
OFF

PATCH IT THROUGH.

SUB  
DOWN  
ACTIVATE  
STATE SW

ITEM — M. ALBRUK. PRINTOUT  
DATA ON LOCATIONS WHERE  
HE MAY BE FOUND. YOU ARE  
ISSUED ONE REGULATION  
HUMANE TERMINATOR LOADED  
WITH FIVE CHARGES.

SCREEN ON

SCREEN  
ON

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW  
MORE ABOUT M. ALBRUK.

SUCH REQUEST  
IRREGULAR. DENIED.

JUST THE SAME, I WANT TO  
KNOW MORE — SO LET'S  
TRY THE CITY DIRECTORY.

SKIP THE PERSONAL  
DETAIL. WHO IS HE AND  
WHAT DOES HE DO?

MART ALBRUK, TRADE  
CONSULTANT. VARIOUS  
INTERESTS IN  
ENTERTAINMENT AND  
PROPERTY ...

MAKIM LEFT TO CARRY  
OUT HIS ASSIGNMENT—

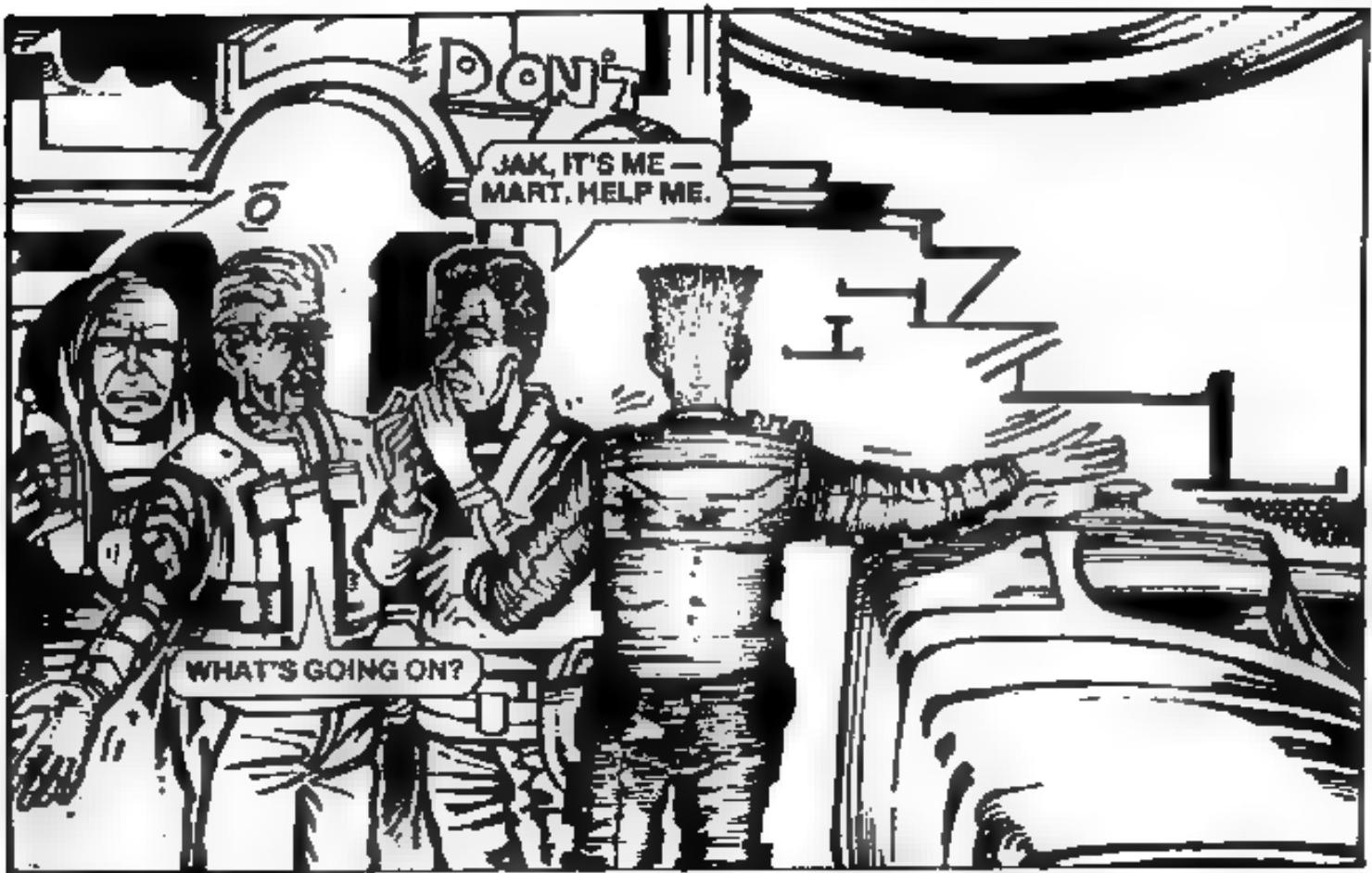


SO ALBRUK IS A WEALTHY  
MAN AND IMPORTANT IN  
THE BUSINESS  
COMMUNITY. STRANGE  
THAT ONE SO FORTUNATE  
CAN BECOME A SOCIAL  
DEVIANT.

MAKIM FOUND HIS MAN—

M. ALBRUK, I HAVE  
BUSINESS WITH YOU.

WHAT—OH, NO. THEY  
CAN'T DO THIS TO ME.



ALBRUK FLED — AND MAKLIN AIMED...



...BUT HE FIRED WIDE.



YOU MISSED, SADMAN!  
YOU MISSED.

SO I DID.



MAKLIN WENT HOME . . .

M. ALBRUK TERMINATION  
INCOMPLETE. I REQUIRE  
CONSULTATION WITH  
MISTER BALDOK.

I WAS UNABLE TO  
PERFORM MY DUTY. I  
FOUND MYSELF  
THINKING OF THIS  
ALBRUK AS A SENTIENT  
BEING LIKE MYSELF.

MAKLIN, I CAN NO LONGER  
HELP YOU. MY PRESCRIPTION  
PRINTOUT WILL DIRECT YOU  
WHERE TO GO.

BY HOVERCAR, SUBWAY AND FINALLY  
BY ANTI-GRAV ELEVATOR . . .

IF YOU'RE  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
DOM



HERE IS ONE SUCH SENTIENT BEING —  
MART ALBRUK, THE TARGET ON WHICH  
YOU FAILED. HE HAS BECOME RICH BY A  
VARIETY OF ANTI-SOCIAL  
MANIPULATIONS INCLUDING THE  
PURVEYING OF FORBIDDEN DRUGS —  
HALLUCINOGENICS SO POWERFUL THAT  
ONE INTAKE CAN BRING ABOUT  
ADDICTION AND INCURABLE MENTAL  
DISORDER.

ALBRUK

HE IS A DEALER IN MISERY AND  
DEATH. YOU HAVE ALLOWED HIM  
CONTINUED EXISTENCE AND  
POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO KILL  
AGAIN. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?

OH, NO — NOT THAT!  
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

22  
MY YOUNG FRIEND, YOUR FINE RECORD ENTITLES YOU TO THE CHANCE OF CORRECTING YOUR ERROR. BUT YOU MUST VISIT THE OUTER COMPLEXES, THE SO-CALLED OUTCOMPS.

I AM WILLING!

THE OUTCOMPS WERE OUTER COMPLEXES BEYOND THE SUBURBAN DOME WHERE VARIOUS SUB-CULTURES OF DEVIANTS HAD DEVELOPED.

ALBRUK IS KNOWN TO HAVE LEFT OUR CATCHMENT IN A RENTED VEHICLE THAT WAS FOUND ABANDONED BESIDE THE THRUWAY AT THE ENTRY TO DOGGER-TEN, A DISUSED MINING OPERATION THAT HAS BECOME HAVEN FOR MANY FUGITIVES.

ONE HUMANE  
TERMINATOR, FIVE  
CHARGES — ONE NAV-  
DISC FOR YOUR VEHICLE.

SO GLAD TO HAVE YOU  
BACK WITH US, MAKLIN.



MAKLIN QUIT CATCHMENT-  
90 BY THE INTER-  
CONTINENTAL  
THRUWAY ...

DILK MAKES EVERYTHING  
SO VERY CLEAR — YET I  
STILL HAVE THIS  
IRRITATING FEELING OF  
DISQUIET.

NAV-DISC SHOWS THIS  
VEHICLE IS APPROACHING  
TURN-OFF TO DOGGER-  
TEN.



THE OLD AIRLOCK. NO FURTHER VEHICULAR ACCESS.

WARNING! PURITY OF ATMOSPHERE  
CANNOT BE GUARANTEED BEYOND  
THIS POINT.

URGH — FOUL!



THE SUPREMO TALKED AS MAKLIN  
WAS TAKEN TO HIS DESTINATION.

I HELP YOU BECAUSE OTHERWISE  
DILK WOULD HARASS US WITH A  
TASKFORCE OF OPERATIVES LIKE  
YOURSELF ON AN ECO — AN  
EXTRAORDINARY CLEANSING  
OPERATION. I DO NOT LIKE YOU OR  
YOUR MURDERING KIND. YOU ARE  
NOT WELCOME.

RIKER, YOUR SUPREMO  
SPEAKS LIKE A DEVANT,  
BUT YOU APPEAR WELL  
ADJUSTED. WHY DID YOU  
GIVE UP THE ORDERED LIFE  
OF A CATCHMENT?

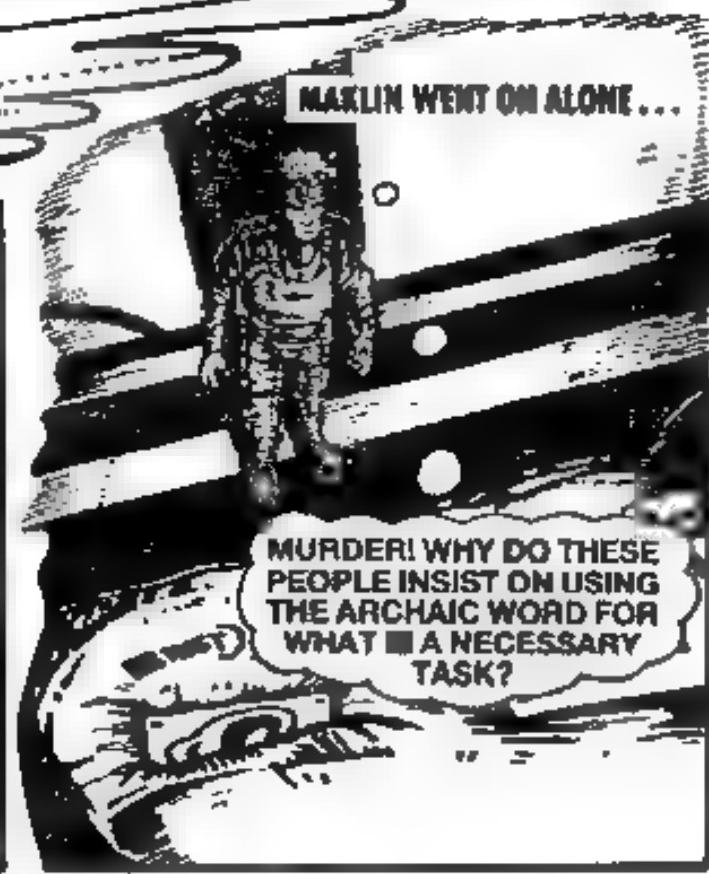
THE REASON IS  
LIBERTY, MAKLIN. HERE  
I AM FREE.

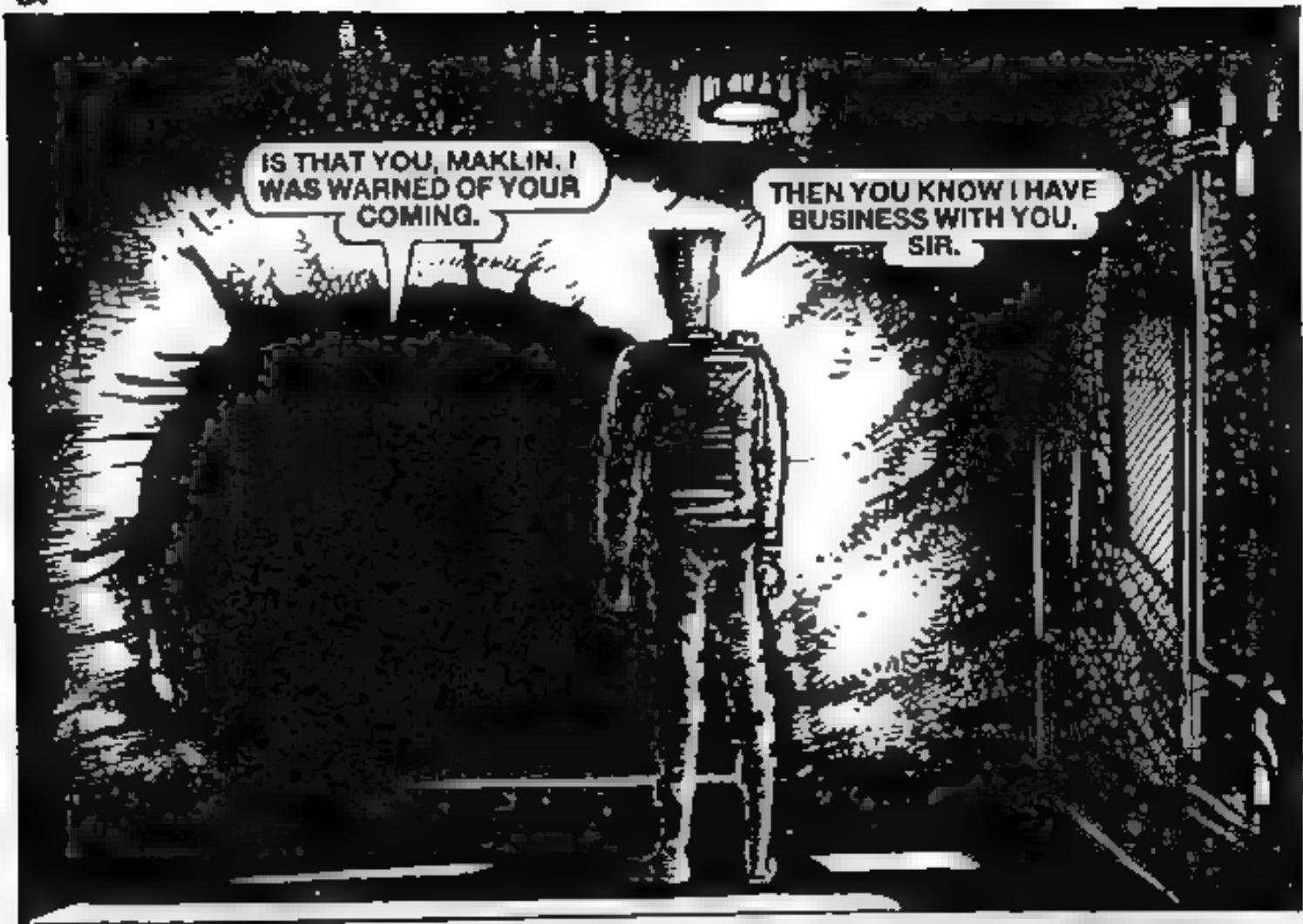
MAKLIN FOLLOWED AS THE  
VEHICLE WAS ABANDONED AND  
RIKER LED BY ESCALATORS AND  
SIDEWALKS THROUGH A MAZE  
OF SHAFTS . . .

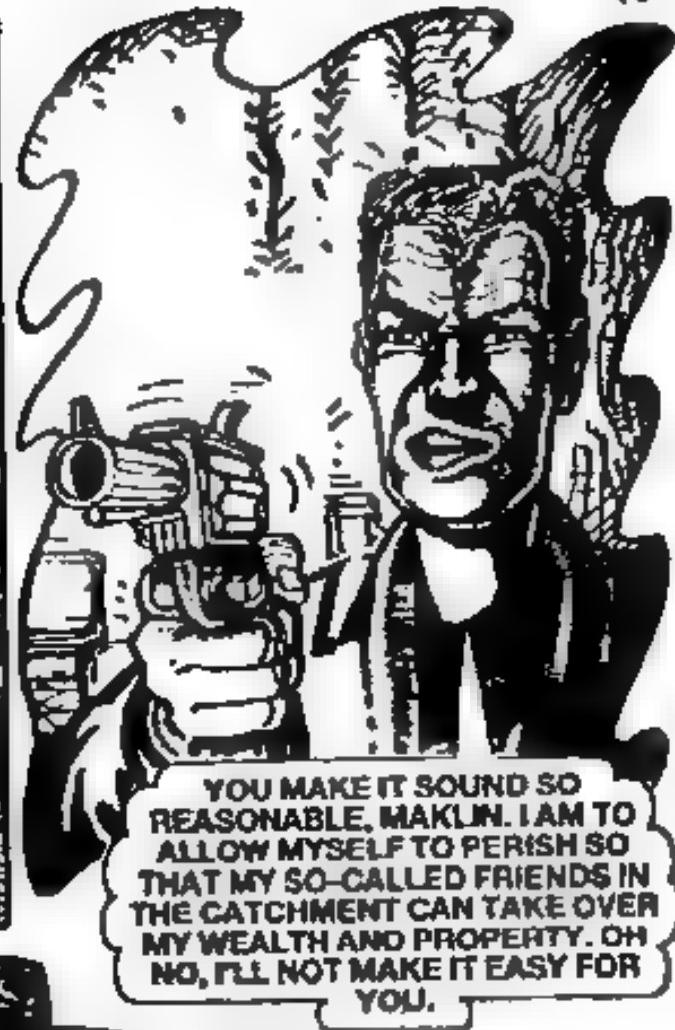
SOUNDS LIKE A PARTY. WE  
HAVE THEM IN THE  
CATCHMENT.

NOT QUITE THE SAME. THE  
PEOPLE HERE SEEK  
GENUINE ENJOYMENT  
INSTEAD OF EASING  
FRUSTRATION.

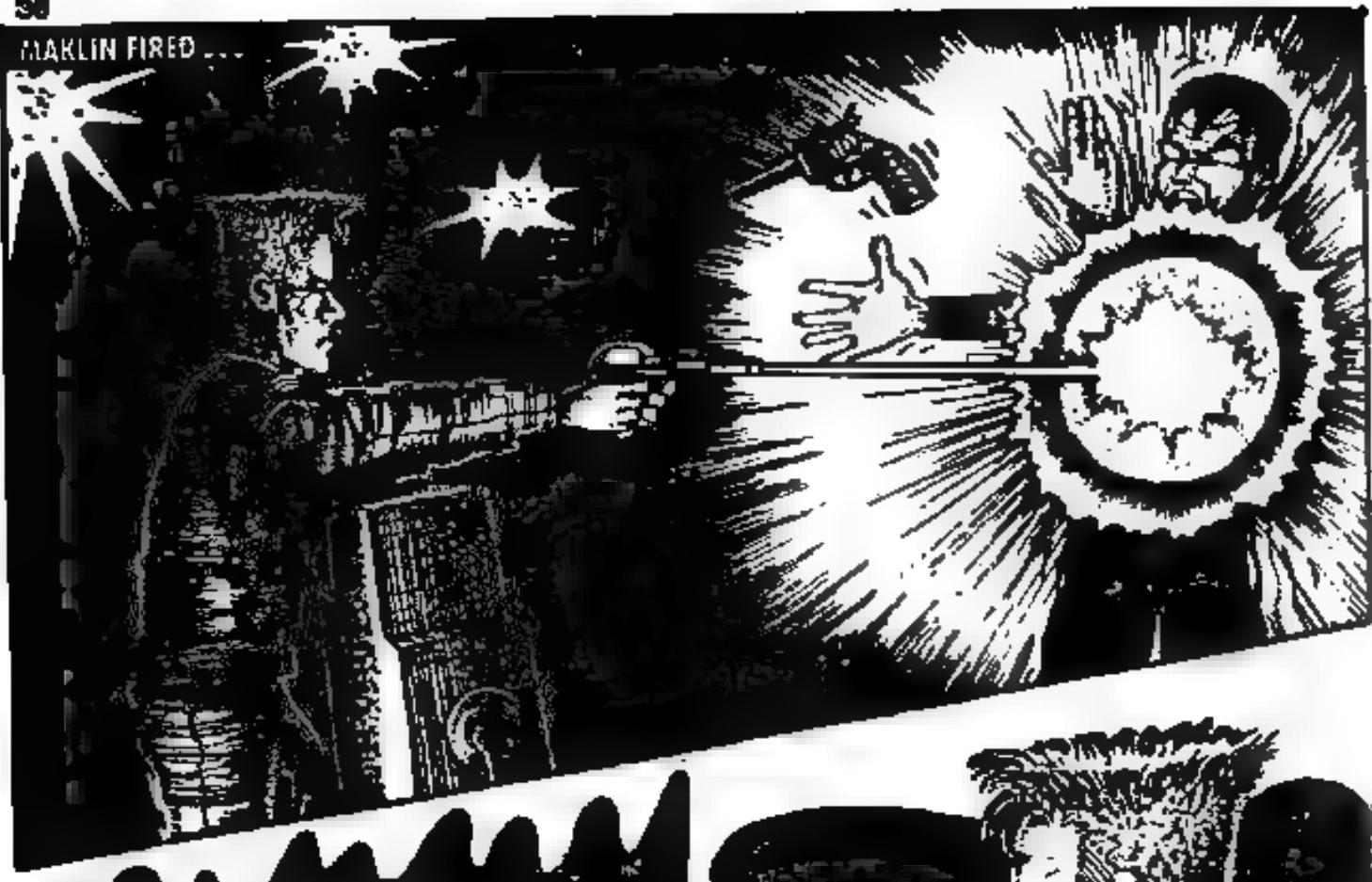
FLOWERS







MAKIN FIRED . . .



MARK ALBRUK WAS CONSUMED BY THE  
DISINTEGRATION BEAM . . .



A WEAPON THAT  
DISCHARGES  
MISSILES BY GAS  
REACTION. I HAVE  
HEARD OF SUCH  
OLD HANDGUNS.



CHARGES FOR THE  
HANDGUN — A KEY-RAY  
FOR A LOCK I SHOULD  
TAKE IN SUCH ITEMS FOR  
DISPOSAL.

SO IT'S OVER. NO DOUBT  
YOU ARE HAPPY ABOUT A  
DUTY WELL DONE.

PLEASURE DOES  
NOT COME INTO IT!

MAKIN RETURNED TO  
HIS APARTMENT...

MART ALBRUK CLEANSING  
EFFECTED. TERMINATOR  
RETURNED. I HAVE ALSO —  
NO, FORGET IT!

WHY DECEIVE MYSELF?  
I HAD NO INTENTION OF  
SURRENDERING THIS!

MAKLIN WENT FOR  
A DRIVE...

ALBRUK WAS DEFINITELY A  
DEVIANT TO HAVE SUCH  
ANTI-SOCIAL THOUGHTS.

LOVE ME + MY STATE

MAKLIN HEADED FOR  
ALBRUK'S APARTMENT.

THIS IS IRREGULAR,  
BUT PERHAPS I CAN  
SATISFY MYSELF IN  
SOME WAY WITH A  
LOOK ROUND HIS  
APARTMENT.

ALBRUK WAS RICH TO AFFORD  
SUCH LUXURY.

A VOICE FROM THE  
BATHROOM... AND ONE I  
RECOGNISE.

I'M FOREVER  
BLOWING BUBBLES...

← TAKE A...  
BATH! →

BALDOK  
THE  
FRIENDLY  
SHRINK!

MAKLINI HOW DID YOU  
ENTER? WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING HERE?

BALDOK, YOU ANSWER  
ME FIRST. WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING IN THE  
APARTMENT OF A  
DEVIANT RECENTLY  
DISPOSED OF BY ME?

I DECLINE TO ANSWER  
SUCH AN IMPERTINENT  
QUESTION. I WOULD  
REMIND YOU THAT I AM  
YOUR SUPERIOR IN  
DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE.

ANSWER ME!

I NEEDED AN APARTMENT AND  
WAS ABLE TO TAKE UP THIS  
ONE, RECENTLY VACATED,  
WITH THE AID OF A  
DEPARTMENTAL LOAN.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH,  
MISTER BALDOK. TAKE A  
DEEP BREATH ...

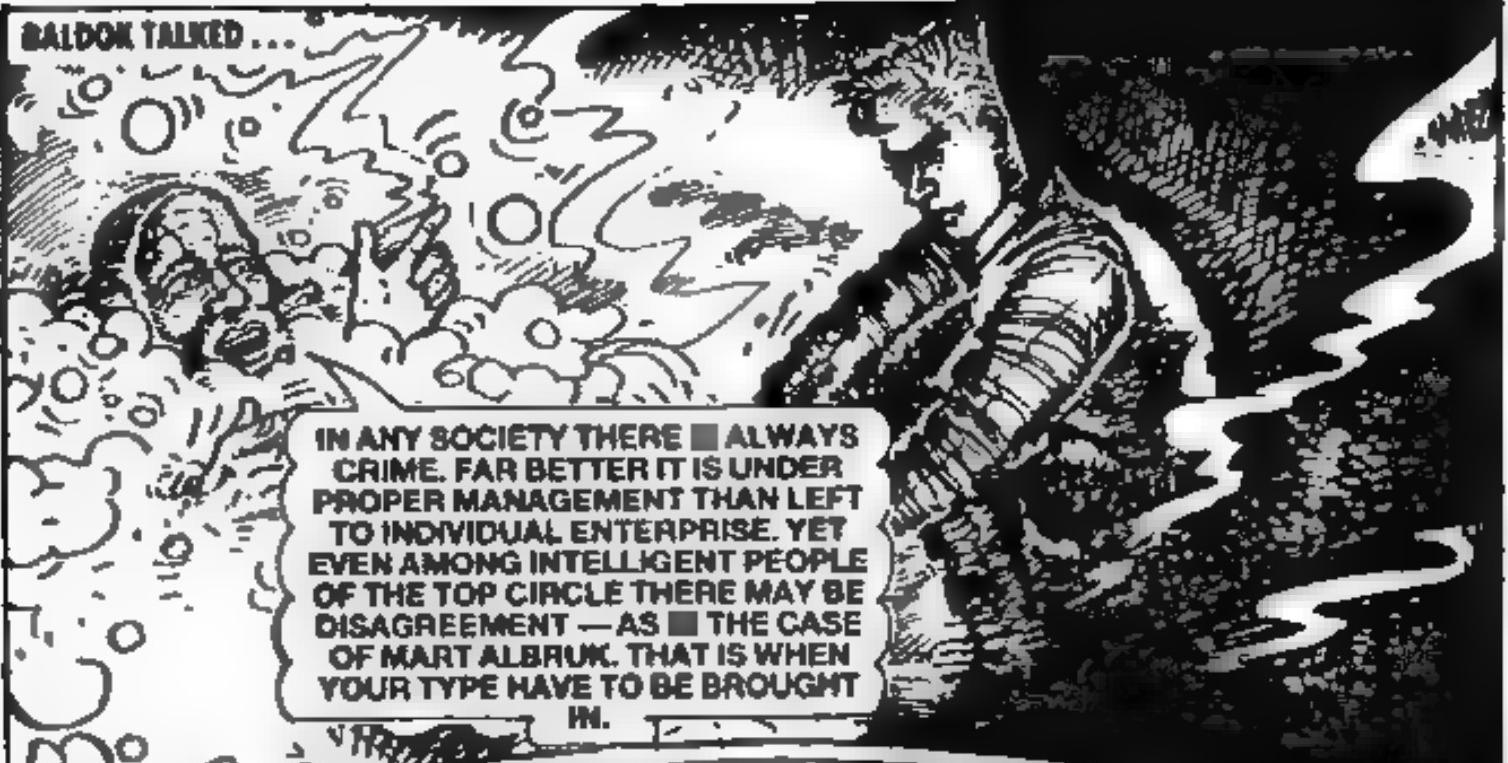
BALDOK WENT UNDER AGAIN...

**BLUG!**

A TITLE CONVENIENTLY  
AVAILABLE DUE TO MY  
DISPOSING OF THE  
PREVIOUS OWNER.  
BALDOK, TELL ME THE  
REST OR I'LL HOLD YOU  
UNDER TILL YOU CEASE  
BUBBLING.

(O) (O)  
PLEASE — NO MORE. IN THE  
TOP CIRCLES OF THE  
CATCHMENT WE DO LITTLE  
FAVOURS FOR ONE  
ANOTHER AND THEY EARN  
REWARDS. I MANAGED TO  
PLEASE DILK AND HE GAVE  
ME TITLE TO THIS PLACE.

BALDON TALKED . . .



IN ANY SOCIETY THERE ■ ALWAYS CRIME. FAR BETTER IT IS UNDER PROPER MANAGEMENT THAN LEFT TO INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISE. YET EVEN AMONG INTELLIGENT PEOPLE OF THE TOP CIRCLE THERE MAY BE DISAGREEMENT — AS ■ THE CASE OF MART ALBRUK. THAT IS WHEN YOUR TYPE HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN.

HAVE I DISPOSED OF MANY OF THAT TYPE?

NO MORE THAN HALF A DOZEN.





MAKLIN, NOW YOU CAN  
BECOME ONE OF US. IT'S TIME  
YOU HAD PROMOTION. DILK IS  
REALLY QUITE IMPRESSED BY  
YOU.



FRIENDLY TALK WHILE  
HIS EYES SHIFT AND HE  
SWEATS.



BALDOK MOVED QUICKLY —  
BUT MAKLIN WAS QUICKER . . .

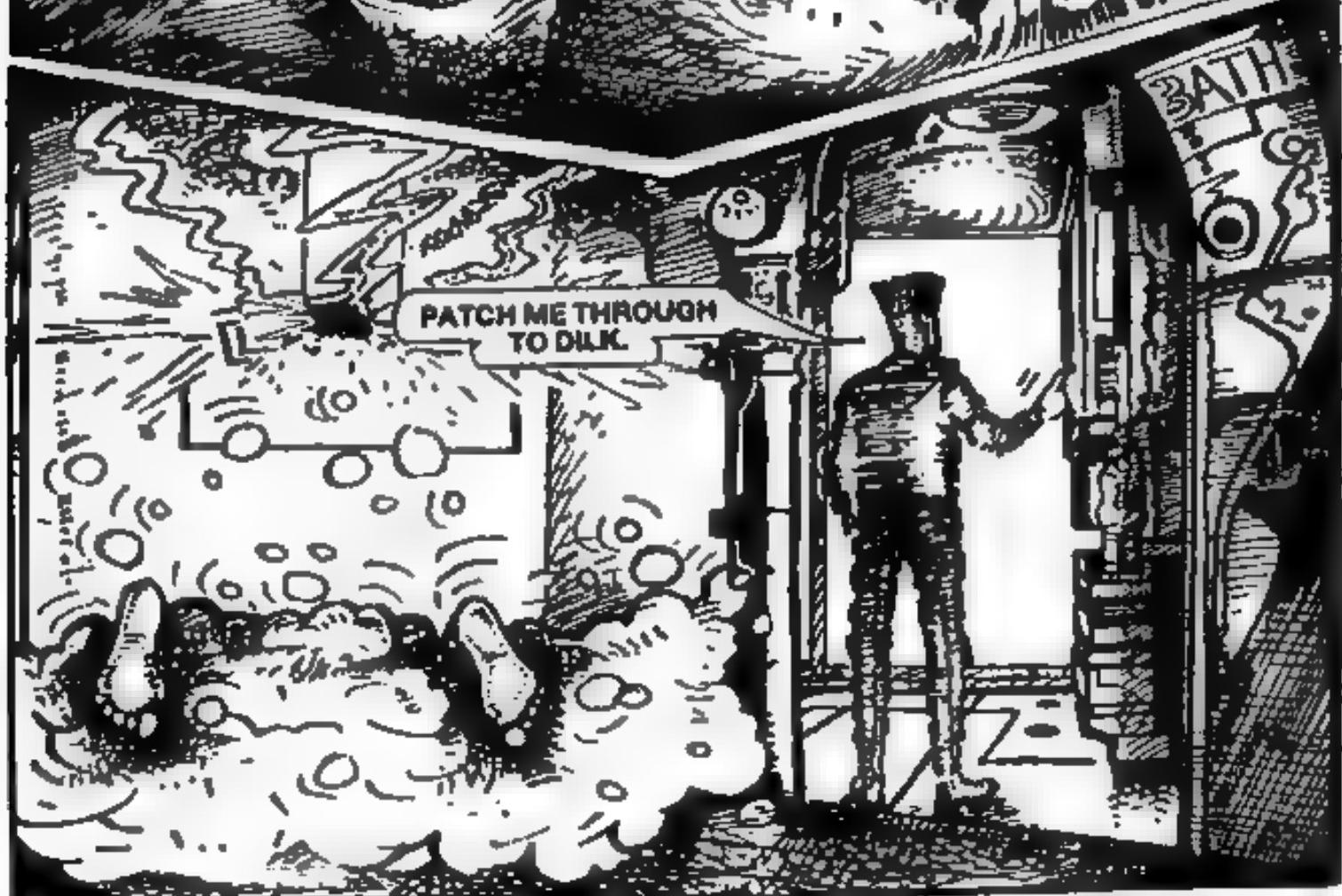


TOO SLOW, FATSO!

THIS IS AN  
UNOFFICIAL DISPOSAL



PATCH ME THROUGH  
TO DILK.



CONTROLLER, YOUR ADVICE HAS REMOVED MY DOUBTS AND GIVEN ME COMPLETE TASK SATISFACTION. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU ONCE AGAIN TO CLARIFY ONE OR TWO SMALL DETAILS.

↑  
O PUSH OFF  
↓



↑  
O DILK  
+ ↗ +  
PUB

IT IS FOR THAT PURPOSE I AM HERE, MY GOOD FELLOW. COME ALONG TO MY PLACE IN ONE HOUR.

CONTROLLER

MY ONLY WEAPON, BUT TOO NOISY AND CLUMSY. THIS LAST DISPOSAL WILL BE EFFECTED IN MORE PERSONAL MANNER.

CALLERS TO BE INFORMED  
MISTER BALDOK HAS  
PRESCRIBED HIMSELF  
SEDATION AND IS NOT TO  
BE DISTURBED.

MAKIN FOLLOWED HIS PREVIOUS  
ROUTE — BY HOVERCAR, SUBWAY  
AND ANTI-GRAV ELEVATOR.

INSTRUCTION LOGGED.

WELCOME! NOW WHAT  
ARE THESE  
BOthersome  
DETAILS?

MOSTLY A FAULT IN THE  
CLEANSING OPERATION THAT  
MEANS I AM USED BY ANTI-  
SOCIAL ELEMENTS IN HIGH  
PLACES. MY DECISION IS TO  
RESIGN AFTER ONE LAST  
OPERATION OF MY OWN  
CHOOSING.

MISTER DILK, I HAVE  
BUSINESS WITH YOU.

FOOLISH MAKLIN —  
EXTREMELY FOOLISH.



MAKLIN STRUCK — AND ENCOUNTERED EMPTINESS ...

AHHH!  
WHAT THE—

A HOLOGRAM, MAKLIN — AN IMAGE PROJECTION BY LASER BEAMS. MY ACTUAL PERSON IS AGREEABLY ENSCONCED AT MY HOLIDAY HOME.

YOU'RE EVIL!

OK  
CONTROL

EVIL!

MAKLIN, YOU WERE EXPECTED. I HAD YOU WATCHED AND KNOW OF YOUR DEALING WITH THAT FOOL BALDOK. THERE IS NO ESCAPE FOR YOU.

APARTMENT

ALL ASSETS

ALERTING

DILK



MAKLIN EMERGED FROM THE ANTI-GRAV — TO A MEETING.

REMEMBER US?  
I'M JAY.

I'M KAY — AND WE HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOU, DEAR MAKLIN.







IDENTITY ERASURE WILL BE  
AS BEFORE, BUT NOW NO  
MESSY DEBRIS REQUIRING  
THE USE OF A CLEANSING  
UNIT.

DON'T

DO

SO MUCH MORE  
TIDY.

NO BEYOND  
TO

LOCK  
OUT

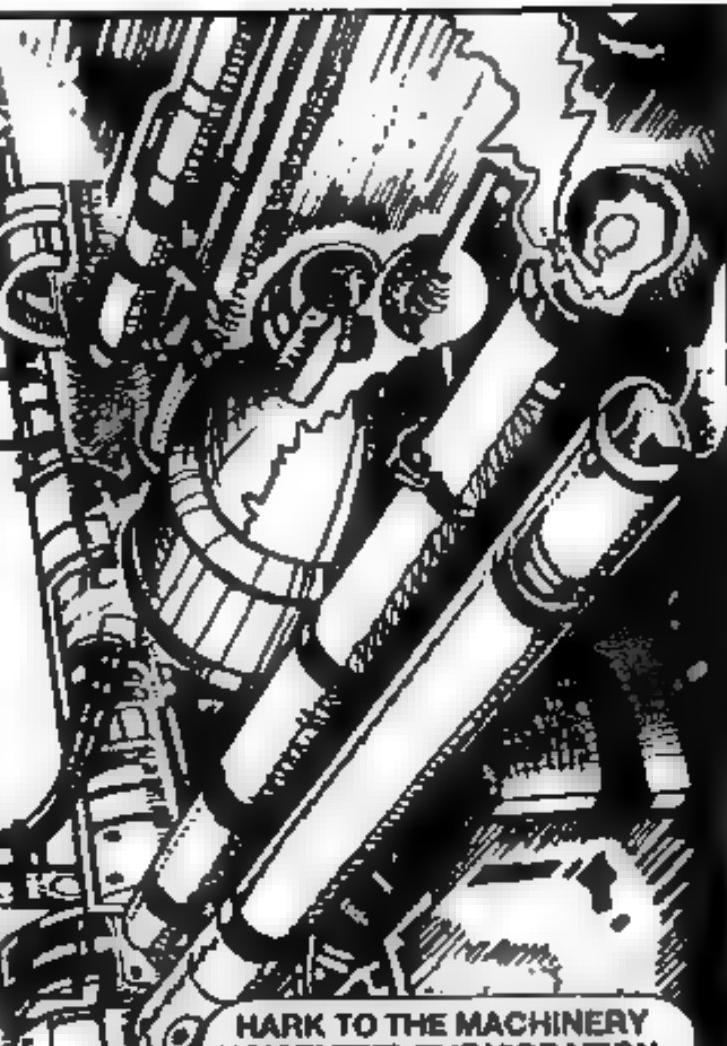
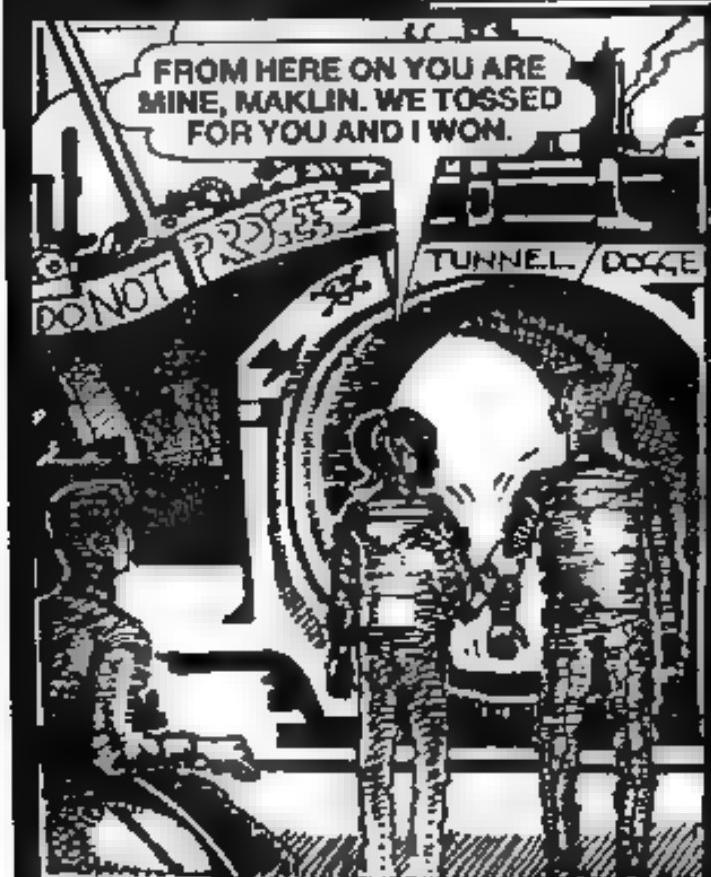


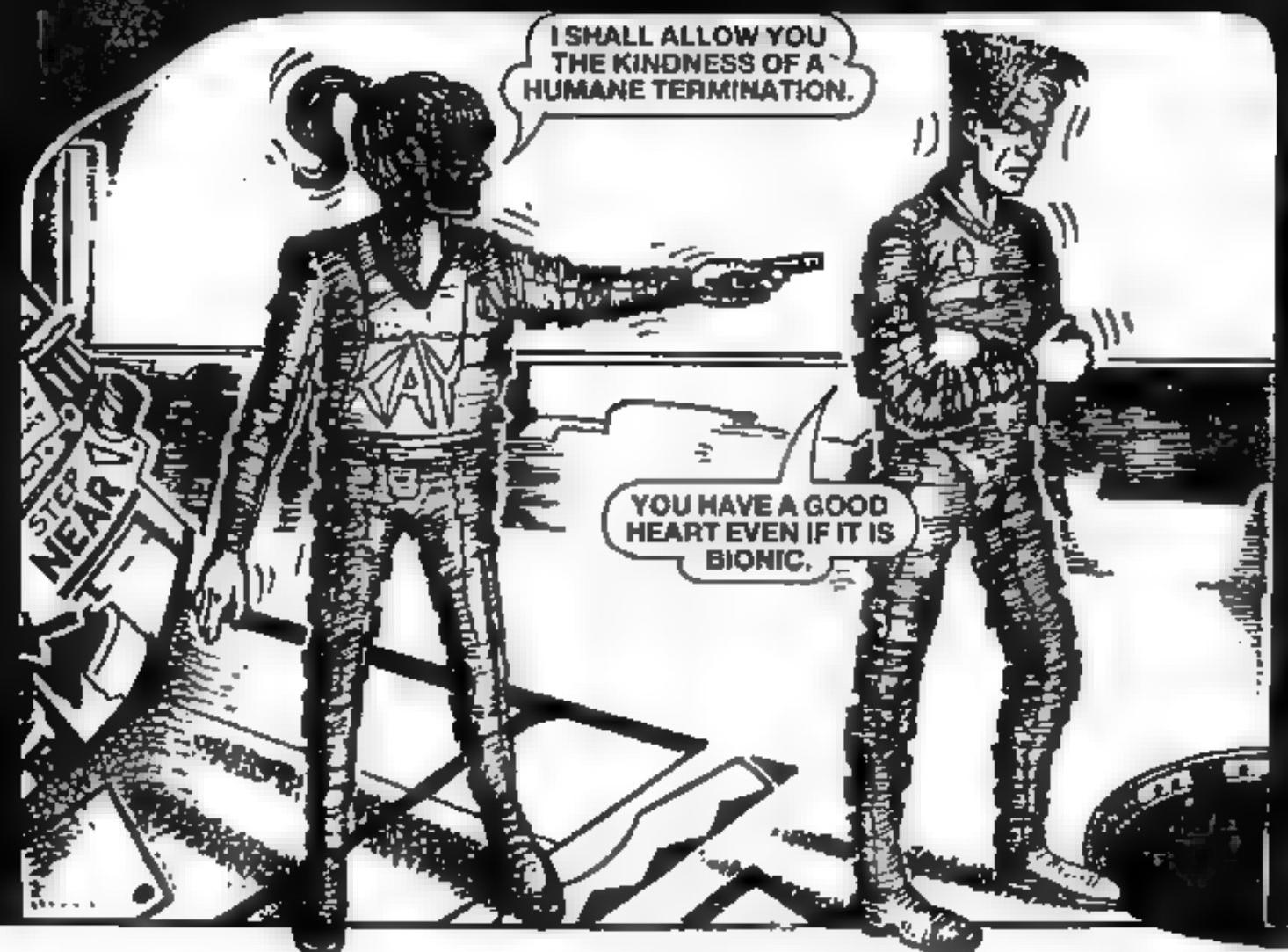
THEY DROVE ON BEYOND  
THE MAIN DEPOT PORTAL . . .

NOT FAR NOW, MAKLIN.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
PATIENCE.

HARK TO THE MACHINERY  
NOISE! FEEL THE VIBRATION.  
THE FINAL PROCESS. MAKLIN —  
THE CRUSHING, PULPING AND  
PUMPING AWAY OF GARBAGE  
TOO USELESS EVEN FOR THE  
METHANE VATS.

FROM HERE ON YOU ARE  
MINE, MAKLIN. WE TOSSED  
FOR YOU AND I WON.







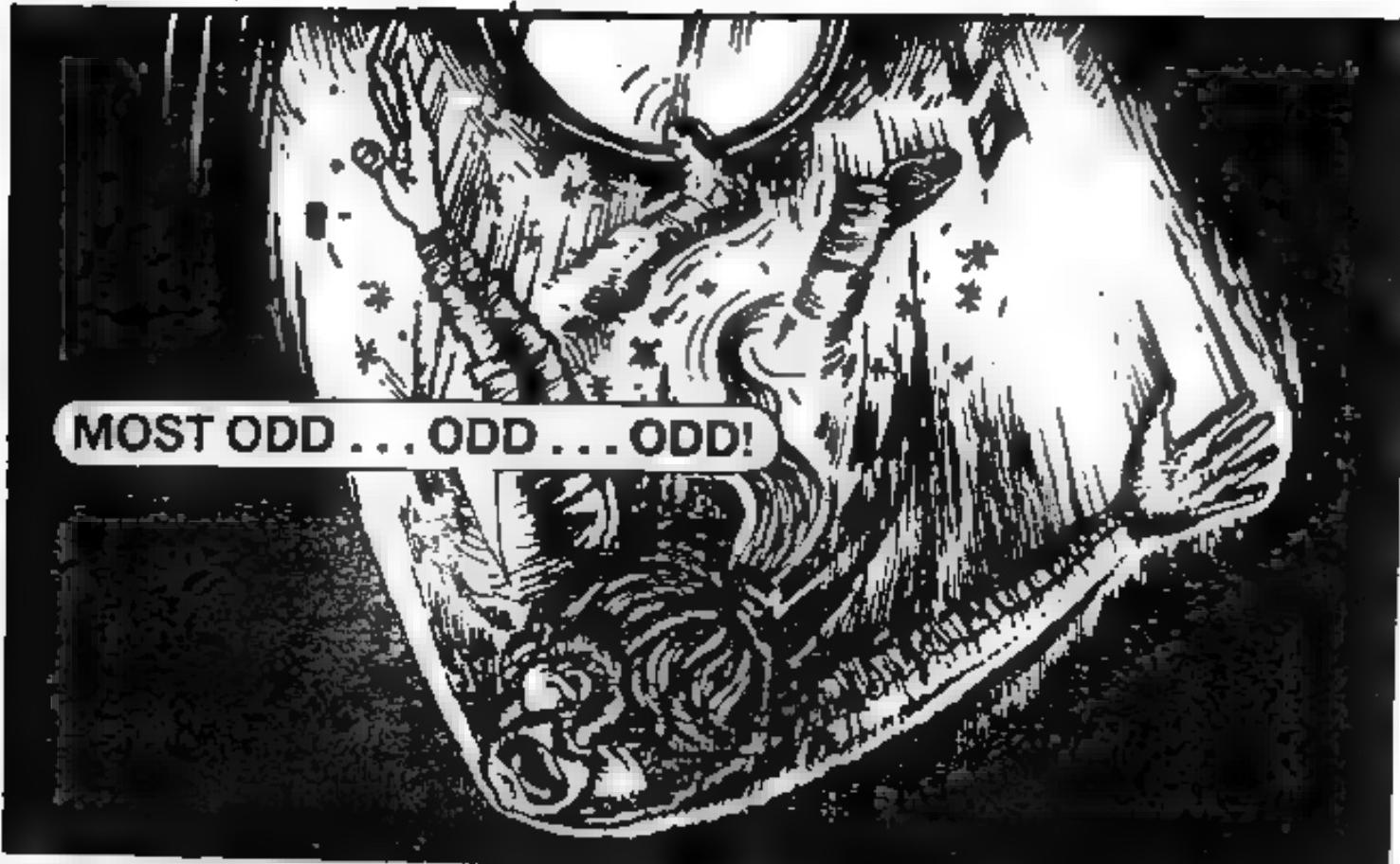
BUT I'M NOT READY TO BE TERMINATED, MY FRIEND!



MAKIN - YOU ARE NO FRIEND.



I DO BELIEVE I AM BEING TERMINATED. OH DEAR! MOST ODD ...





ME IS — AND I AM NOT.  
MY OLD PISTOL WENT  
DOWN INTO THE PIT  
WITH KAY.



WHAT THE — ANH! MUST BE  
GEARING FOR THE PUMPS.

SUPERIOR SENSES AND  
PHYSICAL ABILITY. ALL I  
HAVE GOING FOR ME IS A  
LITTLE SNEAKY HUMAN  
CUNNING.

MAKIN, I SHALL MISS  
KAY. SOME OF OUR  
BIOLOGICAL MAKE-UP  
WAS CLONED FROM  
THE SAME POD.

HUM!  
MIGHT WORK.

I HEARD A DESPAIRING YELL ...

AHHHHHHHHH!



STILL ALL NEATLY  
PACKED UP!



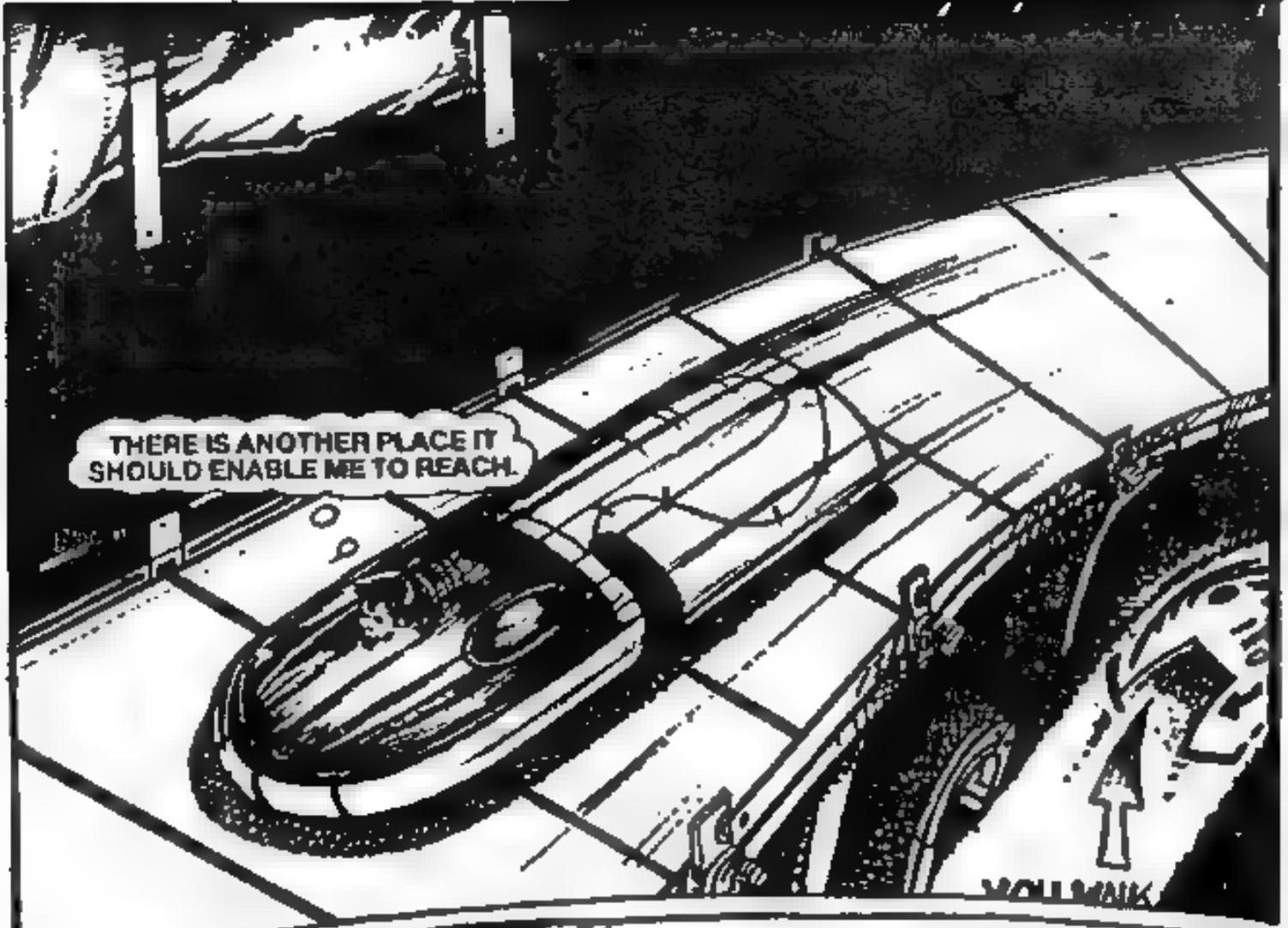
AN ARTICLE OF YOUR  
CLOTHING, MAKLIN. YOU  
FELL — OH NO! WHERE IS  
THE REST OF YOU AND THE  
SPILLAGE OF LIFE FLUIDS?

JUST TRICKERY  
URK!



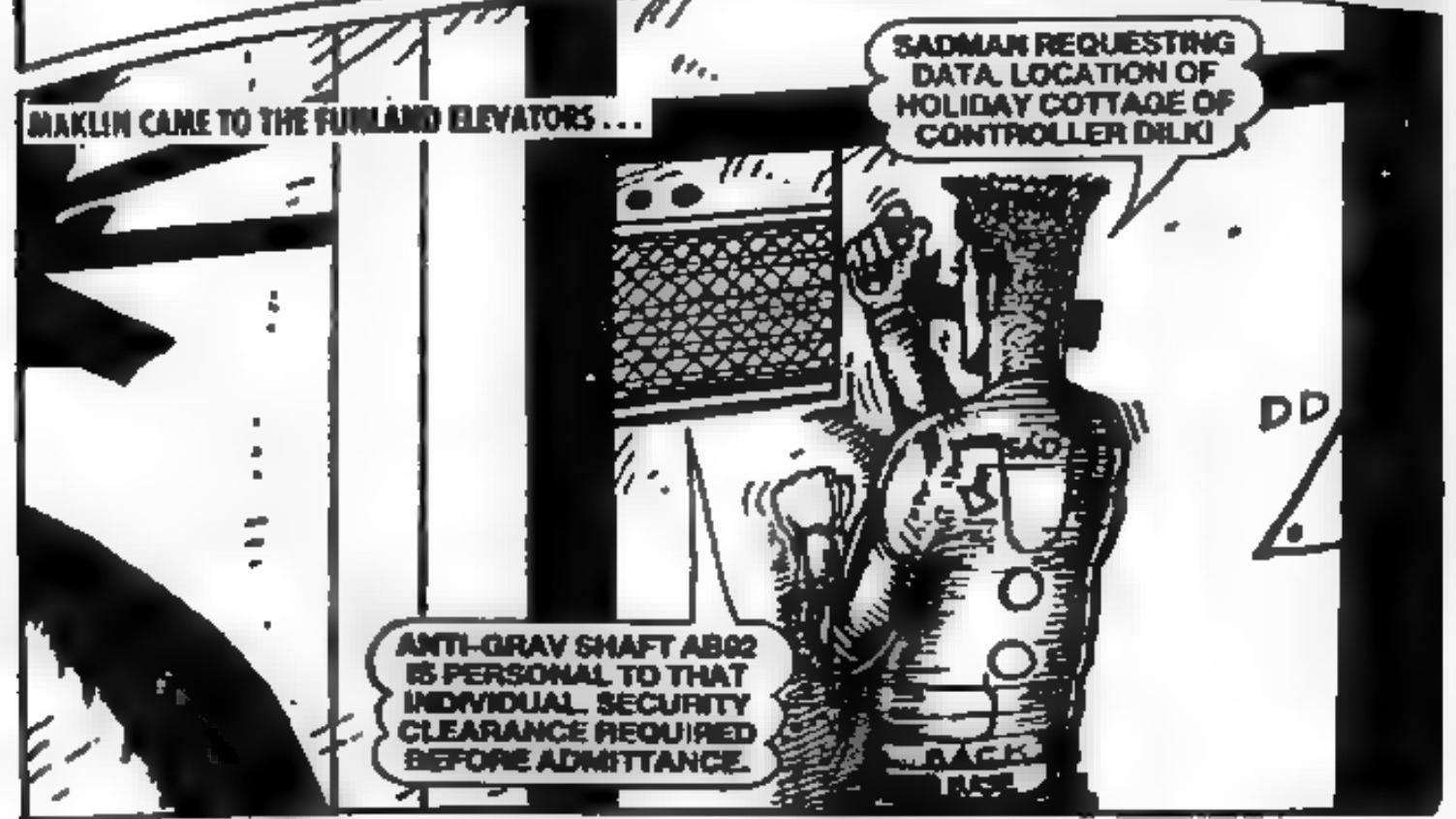
MAKLIN RETURNED TO THE HOVERCAR ...





THERE IS ANOTHER PLACE IT  
SHOULD ENABLE ME TO REACH.

MULLMAN

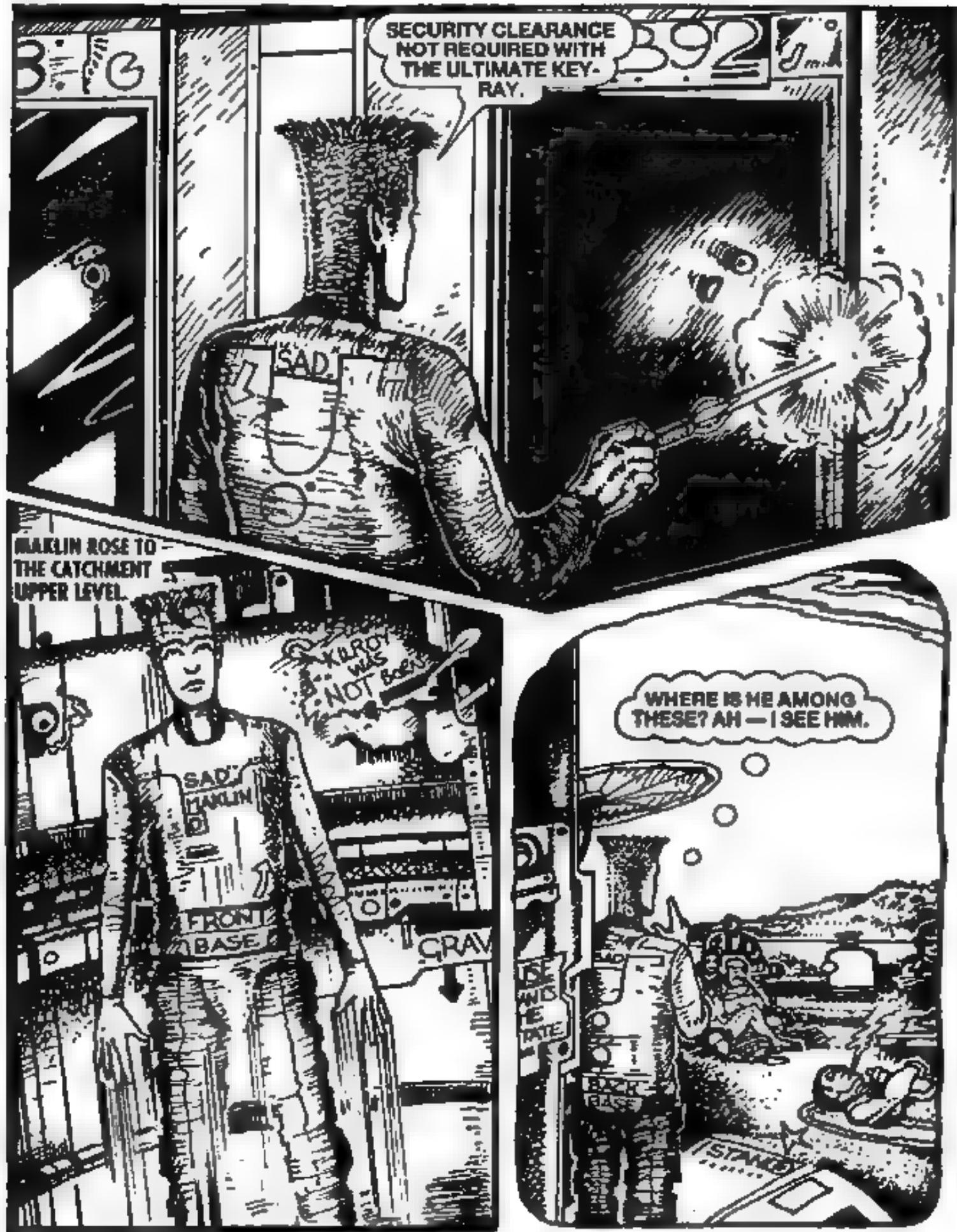


MAKIN CAME TO THE FUNLAND ELEVATORS...

SADMAN REQUESTING  
DATA LOCATION OF  
HOLIDAY COTTAGE OF  
CONTROLLER DILKI

ANTI-GRAV SHAFT AB02  
IS PERSONAL TO THAT  
INDIVIDUAL. SECURITY  
CLEARANCE REQUIRED  
BEFORE ADMITTANCE.

BACK IN



MISTER DILK, I HAVE  
BUSINESS WITH  
YOU.

MAKLINI OH NO —  
PLEASE, LET US TALK THIS  
OVER.

URRRRRRH!

NO!

SADMAN BUSINESS.  
DO NOT INTRUDE.

MAKLIN LEFT FINLAND —  
HE LEFT CATCHMENT A-90 ...



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**DON'T  
MISS** THIS MONTH'S OTHER  
**ACTION-PACKED**  
**ADVENTURE**

# **STARBLAZER**

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES NO. 254

**32p**



## **The CURSED LAND**

**NOW ON SALE**

# THE S.A.D. MAN

Derek Rikkard was a Search and Destroy agent employed to cleanse society of undesirable elements. He did his job without question or complaint — but when he asked just who he was eliminating, strange things began to happen. First there were the crazy twins, Jay and Kay, then an unwanted holiday, followed by the discovery of corruption in high places. Rikkard the hunter, became Rikkard the hunted.

